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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6: G01N 21/00, 21/29, 21/64, B01J 10/00, C07H 19/00

(11) International Publication Number:

WO 98/53300

(43) International Publication Date: 26 November 1998 (26.11.98)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US98/11224

A3

(22) International Filing Date:

22 May 1998 (22.05.98)

(30) Priority Data:

08/862,610

23 May 1997 (23.05.97)

US

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(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, GM, GW, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TI, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

With international search report.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 25 February 1999 (25.02.99)

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND APPARAUS FOR SEQUENTIAL PROCESSING OF ANALYTES

(57) Abstract

An apparatus and system are provided for simultaneously analyzing a plurality of analytes anchored to microparticles. Microparticles each having a uniform population of a single kind of analyte attached are disposed as a substantially immobilized planar array inside of a flow chamber where steps of an analytical process are carried out by delivering a sequence of processing reagents to the microparticles by a fluidic system under microprocessor control. In response to such process steps, an optical signal is generated at the surface of each microparticle which is characteristic of the interaction between the analyte carried by the microparticle and the delivered processing reagent. The plurality of analytes are simultaneously analyzed by collecting and recording images of the optical signals generated by all the microparticles in the planar array. A key feature of the invention is the correlation of the sequence of optical signals generated by each microparticle in the planar array during the analytical process.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US98/11224

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| A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(6) : G01N 21/00, 21/29, 21/64; B01J 10/00; C07H 19/00 US CL : 422/50, 55, 82.05, 82.05, 129; 536/22.1 | | | | | | | | | |
| According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC | | | | | | | | | |
| B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) | | | | | | | | | |
| U.S.: 422/50, 55, 82.05, 82.07, 129; 536/22.1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched | | | | | | | | | |
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| Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) APS, MEDLIHE, BIOSIS search term: apparatus, flow chamber, fluidic means, detection means, DNA, fluorescent, deliver reagents | | | | | | | | | |
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